

The Topeka State Journal.

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MATSON HERE.

The Husband of the Murdered Mrs. Matson

Arrives in Topeka at 10 O'clock Last Evening.

TALKS OF HIS WIFE.

Says She Had a Great Mind but Was Eccentric.

Tells About Their Troublous Marriage Relation.

Albert Matson, of San Diego, husband of Amelia Matson, who was mysteriously murdered two weeks ago, arrived in Topeka last night and registered at the Copeland hotel. He arrived at 10 o'clock on the Santa Fe train which was delayed four hours by snow.

Mr. Matson talks freely regarding himself and his wife. Mr. Matson is a man past middle age, in poor health. He is short in stature and dresses poorly. His face is wrinkled with years and sickness and his hair is black. He wore a steady black overcoat and a derby hat. Mr. Matson is a nervous man, naturally, and this with the troubles of the past two weeks and a severe toothache made him a wretched man when a Journal reporter found him this morning.

"My wife was an eccentric woman," he said. "She had one of the greatest brains I ever knew, but she was contrary and went by her own ideas. Since we separated I had often cautioned her about staying alone, but it did no good. It was one of her hobbies from the time we were first married in 1867 never to allow any one else around the place. She never allowed a domestic about the house, although she was always to keep one, and on the farm she objected to hired men being on the place. I often said, 'We are getting old and can afford to fold our hands and let some one else do the work, but the very idea seemed to irritate her. Another of her hobbies was staying out late at night. She would often go away and remain until 11 o'clock, coming home alone. At length I resorted to threats to try and control her, and I threatened to have the police arrest her when she was out late. This seemed to have some effect on her and she cried about it nearly a week. After that we lived together for fully a year."

"She was in the habit when I wouldn't do as she wished, to go into the streets and sell 'murder' and 'poison,' just to bring me to terms. This I fear may have created the impression that I was drunk to her. But I wasn't. My whole life was devoted to fully a year."

"She was very eccentric in business matters. When she would get \$4.00 or \$5.00 she would put it in an old tin box and place it back of the door. I often told her that was no way to keep money. Sometimes when I would tell her she would come out and pay up within thirty days or get out, she would go around there secretly and tell them they could stay as long as they wanted to."

"I went to San Diego in 1888, eight years ago. I have been back only once since. That was in 1891. I went there because I had a chronic catarrh, with a tendency towards consumption, and I thought I could find a cure there. I tried to get her to accompany me, but she insisted on staying here to look after the property. That is where her going by opposites comes in. I suppose if I had said for her to stay here she would have packed up her trunk and gone with me. It was the understanding that I was to return when I regained my health."

"Do you know anything about her will?" the reporter inquired.

"I don't know anything about it. I know that when we were first married we made wills, but she destroyed the one each other. But I will make that long ago would probably be outlawed by this time."

"It is a fact, is it not, that you had a great deal of property regarding the division of the property?"

"Yes, there was considerable trouble, but she caused it all. By the way, that agreement which I am told was printed in the papers here, was not our final settlement. That agreement was written by our attorneys and we both agreed to it. But three days after it was written Mrs. Matson changed her mind and wanted it changed to the way it was at first. So she brought a suit in the California supreme court to nullify the contract, and sued me and my lawyer for attempting to defraud her. I said to her if you wanted that changed, why didn't you come to me? I would have agreed to it."

"Oh," she said, "I wanted it fixed like it was at first, and I'm going to have it that way if I have to sell the property to get the money to do it. I saw it was no use arguing the matter, for I knew she would do all she said, so I agreed to all her demands and the suit was withdrawn."

The second agreement which was made three days after the first one, converted all the property back under the joint and I supposed the contract was fixed like the first one. I remember well giving my lawyer the money to pay for it. I don't know, but I find this morning that it was filed here. I know it is filed in San Diego."

"How long will you remain in Topeka?"

"I don't know. I can't stay long. I borrowed the money to get here on and I have only enough to buy my return ticket. I don't see what excuse the probate court has in appointing an executor for the estate when the woman's own husband is alive. It was evidently done for the purpose of robbery. I understand she had paid the first half of her taxes, and if this is the case, I don't think she had much money in the house."

"I suppose you know that some of the colored people claim to have seen you here during the past month?"

"No, is that so? It's a mistake. I have been in San Diego all the time and there isn't a day in the last month but what I can give an account for."

Several times during the interview Mr. Matson's neuralgia compelled him to stop, and he apparently suffered greatly. Once he appeared to lose all self control. His lower jaw dropped and snook helplessly, and tears flooded his eyes. He had not yet seen the body of his murdered wife, and it is doubtful whether he will. He does not wish to look on it. He is anxious to see Mr. Mason, who was Mrs. Matson's half brother, and have a talk with him regarding the business interests of the property.

MISS POLLARD FOUND

She Refuses Another Offer to Go on the Stage.

The Life She Leads in New York Described.

HELPS UNFORTUNATES

She May Attach the Receipts at Breckinridge's Lectures.

Says She Never Dreamed of Changing Her Name.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Madeline Pollard will not go on the stage, and hence will not accept the offer of M. C. Anderson, of Cincinnati. There is reason to believe, however, that she will try to seize some of the money that comes into the box office at Colonel Breckinridge's lectures. She can easily do this by filing a transcript of the judgment awarded her in Washington in each place that the colonel lectures and issuing a creditor's bill accordingly.

Miss Pollard is quietly living in an unpretentious place near Twenty-third street, where she pursues her literary work. She keeps herself thoroughly posted as to the colonel's movements and there is reason to believe that another chapter will be added to the cause before the curtain drops finally.

Miss Pollard is devoting her spare moments to befriending unfortunates. She has several old blind ladies, inmates of city hospitals, that she reads for quite frequently, and those who know of her act as an educationist, not to speak of her dramatic powers, can judge of how much pleasure she gives to the old women, who have come to look upon her as an angel of light.

She is frequently seen in the street and mingles every day with the crowd of promenaders on Broadway. A dark veil conceals her face and she is accordingly unknown to New Yorkers as the famous plaintiff.

In speaking about the report that she had changed her name, Miss Pollard said: "It is perfectly absurd and something that I never dreamed of doing. My father gave me my name and although I have sold it, I propose to live long enough and try to remove the stain by giving my life to others. What I have done, I have done; but the future is mine and I expect to retrieve the past. I will recognize what I have to contend with, but I find much to strengthen me between the lids of the Bible. The report, too, that I have been doing typewriter work is exceedingly absurd. I am trying to make myself useful in the world, and endeavoring to avoid notoriety of any kind. I expect to come upon the crest of the wave in 1900."

Miss Pollard has been very busy in "doing" the city, particularly the Bowery and tenement districts, and she will doubtless employ her pen to some advantage one of these days.

DESHA BRECKINRIDGE BLUSTERS.

A Fight Over the Box Office Receipts at Papa's Lecture.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 28.—The box office at Papa's opera house where Col. Breckinridge lectured last night was the scene of an exciting fight. Attorney Gus Meyer, who represented Madeline Pollard in taking her depositions here, pressed to the Washington trial, had a bill of \$45 against Col. Breckinridge. A writ of attachment was placed in the hands of Constable Skinnors and Volker. Kinney went up to the box office window as if to purchase a ticket.

At that instant Volker gave him a lift and he was propelled clear through, knocking down the ticket seller, overturning the cashier and breaking a picture on the wall. Then began an exciting struggle for the possession of the money, which had rolled from the smashed register. Kinney managed to pick up about \$60. The struggle attracted Breckinridge's friends and about fifteen rushed in.

Kinney was knocked down and kicked, his lips being split and lacerated. The ticket taker received a severe cut on the hand, probably from flying glass. Just as quiet was restored Col. Breckinridge and his son Desha rushed in. Both were greatly excited.

"You robbery!" shouted the colonel, while Desha struggled to hit the constable, but was restrained by friends.

"You come down to the Grand hotel tomorrow," yelled Desha, "and give me satisfaction."

Kinney declined the invitation to a duel, and after counting the money he had seized, returned \$15 to Manager Callenburgh. While the struggle was in progress two other constables, supposed to represent Madeline Pollard, were watching for a chance to jump in.

CHICAGO WANTS A LEXOW.

Civic Federation Decides to Ask for an Investigating Committee.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—The Civic Federation has at last decided to appeal to the Illinois legislature to send a committee to Chicago empowered to probe into every public office about which there is any suspicion of rottenness. The investigation begun will not be confined alone to departments under the city administration, but will take in the county building and, in fact, all the country town governments if the legislative committee can be satisfied that corruption exists in any of them.

The decision is announced by the federation's committee on political action which has decided not to participate in an investigation by a committee of the city council, the question having come before it in the shape of a request from Alderman Kerr for a donation of \$3,000 to help along the proposed inquiry.

WHAT TEACHERS WANT.

Legislation Desired by the Kansas Teachers as Expressed in Resolutions Adopted.

The State Teachers' association adopted a number of resolutions today which stated:

That we favor the compulsory establishment of the county high school in such relation to the common schools below, and the state institutions above, that there shall be a continued and unbroken chain of free educational advancement offered to every young man and young woman of this great commonwealth.

That the time has come for a thorough revision of the course of study for the public schools, somewhat along the lines proposed by the committee of ten of the National association; and that a committee consisting of the state board of education, five county superintendents and five city superintendents, be appointed to prepare and submit the report of such revision at some morning hour at the next meeting of this association.

That we insist upon the establishment of such a uniform system of school taxation as will insure equal opportunities to all children.

That we favor the compulsory levying and collection of a small tax for library purposes in all school districts in the state.

That we regret the defeat of the suffrage amendment in 1894, and record ourselves as being most heartily in favor of suffrage regardless of race, color or commonwealth, and hope the next legislature may pass laws that will look to the suppression of this great evil.

That we fully concur in, and heartily endorse the action of the non-partisan, non-sectarian philanthropic committee petitioning the incoming legislature to establish a woman's industrial institute for the specific purpose of the reformation of unfortunate women over sixteen years of age, who now spend their time in idleness in the city and county jails of this state, with no possible influence for their betterment, but a continued drift toward their helplessness and degradation.

That we demand that no person should be permitted to qualify for the office of county superintendent, who is not actively engaged in the work of teaching or superintending schools, and that no holder of a first grade certificate, which shall have been granted at least six months prior to, and in force at, the time of election, or the holder of a state certificate, life diploma, or diploma from state normal school, or by any other college accredited by state board of education.

That we demand that no person be selected for the position of city superintendent who has not passed a thorough examination in the history and philosophy of education in addition to the branches now required for a first grade certificate, unless the person be the holder of a state certificate or diploma from the state board of education, or a diploma from the state normal school, or a person who is known to have had at least five years successful experience in graded school work.

That we recommend to the executive committee for favorable consideration, the providing on the programme hereafter, for a college session to discuss questions of special interest to colleges and universities.

That we respectfully ask the legislature to designate the 23d day of February as "Educators' Day" in the schools, the day to be occupied with exercises appropriate to such an occasion, calculated to stimulate love of country, respect for authority and obedience to law.

HIS SKELETON A MONUMENT

Strange Provisions in the Will of Jeff Garrigus, Indianapolis Resurrectionist.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 28.—Jeff Garrigus, grave robber, who makes no effort to conceal his ghastly business, has just made his will in which he leaves his property to the Indiana Medical college of this city.

He directs that after his body is dissected by the students and made the subject of lectures by members of the faculty, the skeleton is to be placed in an upright position in the dissecting room of the college, with the right hand on the handle of a new spade and the left foot resting on the blade; the latter to be highly polished and the words "Jeff Garrigus, the resurrectionist," painted upon it in large black letters. Garrigus says this is the only monument he covets, and the faculty has promised to carry out his wishes to the letter.

BYRNES WILL TESTIFY.

Mr. Goff Will Call Him and He is Willing to Do So.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Mr. Goff stated to a reporter last night that he would call Police Superintendent Byrnes as a witness before the Lexow committee either today or on Saturday.

The superintendent was asked later if he had received subpoena from the committee. He replied:

"I have not, none is necessary. I am now, as I have been all along, not only willing but anxious to testify before the senators. Only a word from Mr. Goff is needed to secure my attendance upon the committee."

MUCH WARMER.

The Mercury Went Up Twenty-Six Degrees Today.

As per Weather Observer Jennings' prediction it remained cold in Kansas all last night, and has been warmer today with a rising temperature. The lowest registration last night was 6 degrees above, and this afternoon it is 32 degrees above.

INTERVIEWS GRESHAM.

Ex-Secretary Foster Talks With the Secretary Regarding His Mission.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Ex-Secretary John W. Foster, who is about to start for the east to assist the Chinese peace commissioners in negotiations of terms of peace, called at the state department today and had an interview with Secretary Gresham regarding his mission.

POPULIST LEADERS.

The National Conference Began at St. Louis Today.

They Got Into a Tangle at Once Over Secrecy.

OVER 200 ARE PRESENT

National Chairman Taubeneck Presides Over the Meeting.

Gen. Weaver Moves the Appointment of Committees.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 28.—The conference of the national committee of the People's Party with its invited friends began today at the Lindell hotel in this city with an attendance of something over 200. The meeting was called to order by National Chairman Taubeneck and immediately proceeded to discuss the advisability of holding sessions in secret.

The debate developed something of a tangle out of which the gathering pulled itself, after nearly two hours' discussion, by resolving itself into an informal conference with Mr. Taubeneck in the chair, the committee proper being declared adjourned until 2 p. m. Secretary Turner of the national committee, was made secretary of the conference. Chairman Taubeneck then stated the purpose of the conference as discussed in the call.

Upon motion of General Weaver the chair was directed, after some aimless debate, to appoint a committee of five upon credentials and another of ten members upon address, the latter to prepare a summary of the advice of the conference. A recess was then taken until 2 p. m.

TO INDORSE PARKHURST.

An Attempt Will Be Made to Have the Presbytery Do It.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—At the next state meeting of the New York presbytery, which will occur on the second Monday of January, decisive action will be taken by several prominent clergymen to have the presbytery go on record as favoring the work accomplished for reform in this city by the Rev. Dr. Parkhurst.

There is a small opposition to such a movement on the part of certain conservative members of the body.

WILL USE IT ALL.

The County Commissioners Will Use the Last \$25,000 of the Court House Bond Issue.

The county commissioners are in session today. They voted to execute and endorse the last \$25,000 of the court house bond issue. The county voted \$150,000 bonds for the court house. The commissioners at the time said that \$125,000 was all they needed.

Chairman Knight said to a Journal reporter today that the formal issuing of the bonds was done simply to save the trouble of having them reprinted when the new bond goes in next month. By endorsing them with the present county board they are made worth their face value and will be deposited in a bank vault.

Mr. Knight said that the \$25,000 additional would be needed before the court house was completed. "When we said \$125,000 would be enough," he says, "we thought we could use the proceeds from the sale of the old court house in building the new one. Over \$50,000 or one-half the contract price has already been paid to the contractors and the architect in the four estimates."

COUNTY ATTORNEYS MEET.

They Think Justices Should Get Salaries—They Also Elect Officers.

The state association of county attorneys has been in session all day at the office of County Attorney Smith, 727 Kansas avenue. They discussed needed legislation and agreed that it would be better to have the justices of the peace on a salary basis, but this with other needed changes was referred to a committee. The officers elected for 1895 were:

President, A. W. Hicks of Mitchell county; first vice president, W. C. Simpson of Lyon county; second vice president, W. E. Zeigler of Cherokee county; third vice president, A. E. Crane of Jackson county; secretary, C. E. Brannan of Harvey county; treasurer, Frank Wells of Nemaha county.

Executive committee—W. E. Zeigler of Cherokee county, W. C. Simpson of Lyon county, A. D. Walker of Aitchison county, M. R. Sutherland of Jewell county.

Committee on needed legislation—C. E. Browne of Harvey county, H. C. Sanford of Shawnee county, Frank Wells of Nemaha county, A. W. Hicks of Mitchell county.

NO FOOTBALL IN IOWA.

At Least Resolutions Have Been Adopted Against It.

DES MOINES, Ia., Dec. 28.—It has been determined by the college department of the state teachers' association to stop football playing by college students in Iowa, a resolution being adopted to that effect with but one dissenting voice that of Prof. Schaeffer of the State University.

Kentucky Treasury Deficit.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 28.—There is a probability of an extra session of the Kentucky legislature to raise money to defray the expenses of the state government. There is at present a deficit of \$800,000 which is increasing daily. Gov. Brown says he has not yet decided to call an extra session.

Word comes from all quarters that the neatest and most satisfactory dye for coloring the beard a brown or black is Buckingham's Dye for the Whiskers.

DICKSON TALKS FAST

And Says Many Interesting Things in a Very Short Time.

Charles Dickson, who will appear at the Grand this evening in "A Jolly Good Fellow," is at the Throop with his wife and his company.

Dickson's photographs are good of him, and people who have noted that he talks fast on the stage feel that they hadn't known a thing about fast talk after they had met him. He doesn't seem to be misceast as a "Jolly Good Fellow" at all.

"My new play is a good one," he said, "and I think your people will like it much better than 'Incog.' They do everywhere. It is nothing like the old one. It is a play. Incog was a farce. The third act of this piece I used to use as a curtain raiser and I liked it so much that I put it in. It is beautiful. It is the best I have ever written. Understand it is the act, not me." (Dickson is modest.)

"You are getting quite a reputation as a speech maker and a roaster," said the reporter.

"Oh, I talk to them sometimes when they call me out. Did you read what I said at Leavenworth the other night? I don't know Mr. Crawford personally and I presume he is a very charming gentleman but that doesn't give an actor a decent stage to work on. And such scenery! It was there ten years ago when I played the town a boy with Hobson."

"Hobson will be here tomorrow night. I hope I will get a chance to say something tonight. I would like to think up all the nice things I could, and say them all in a bunch about Mr. Robson. I was with him for a long time and I never knew a more manly man."

Mrs. Dickson (her stage name is Lillian Burkhart) is a charming young woman and the couple seem much attached to each other in spite of the fact that they had a quarrel in Davenport the other night and Dickson said something about her from the stage.

"Most things I ever did," said Dickson. "It just shows what a colossal idiot a man will make of himself when he is out of temper. He was too sick to play, and I thought she wasn't. I had to apologize for the young lady who took her place with a rehearsal and took occasion to say silly things, which I regretted in ten minutes."

Of course Lee Jones and Mrs. Jones have Mr. and Mrs. Dickson out riding this afternoon.

FARMERS' ALLIANCE MET.

The Colorado Council is Addressed by Alonzo Wardell.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 28.—The state council of the Farmers' Alliance began its sixth annual session yesterday. A. W. Wardell, of Topeka, Kansas, addressed the meeting, emphasizing the work of organization in various states. The afternoon session was occupied principally by an address by Mr. Wardell, on the Alliance Aid degree, a project of which he is the originator.

The End of a Duchess.

Mme. d'Armanville did not seek her hero, Napoleon, on his brief return from exile. Such a meeting would have been trying even to her "rare mental flexibility." She was in Rome during the hundred days, "surrounded," according to the Nouvelle Biographie Generale, "by artistic and literary friends."

Few and meager are the particulars which can now be gleaned of her later years. There are hardly any materials for bridging the gulf between the Parisian queen of society and the broken down wreck of Chlorey's hunch sketch.

The revolution of 1830 found her at the Abbaye-aux-Bis, whether the total loss of her fortune had compelled her to retire. She says that on the rupture of the tricolor she was "satisfied" and decided to pass the rest of her life in a quiet life, but it in no way alleviated her melancholy fate. From 1844 to 1855 her memoirs were in course of publication. She wrote some other books and many stories and papers, some of which appeared in The Revue de Paris.

Mme. d'Armanville, reduced to utter destitution, died at Chaillois on June 7, 1839, two days after being admitted to a small hospital, having been refused shelter in one of more pretensions without payment in advance, "abandoned by all whom she loved" (which would seem to imply that her children had forsaken her), "but receiving the last consolations of religion from the hands of the archbishop of Paris."—Temple Bar.

A Story of the Late Jumbo.

The intelligence of the elephant has been the subject of many anecdotes both by travelers who have met him in his native land and also by people who have seen him in captivity. We all remember how Jumbo endeavored himself to the people of this country by his gentle and friendly disposition. Many times I have enjoyed a ride on his back in the days of my youth when he was at the London Zoological gardens, and I remember one incident which gave evidence of his keen sense of humor.

Jumbo was carrying his load of children, tramping along his regular path with stately tread, swinging his great trunk leisurely from side to side, when he approached a countryman who was standing at the side of the path, gazing with eyes and mouth wide open at some animal in a cage close by. His right arm encircled a huge bag of buns, which he had just bought for the purpose of feeding the animals. As Jumbo passed this man, who was too much absorbed in the object of his gaze to hear him approach, he gently lifted his trunk over the man's shoulder and took the bag of buns, which he immediately devoured, bag and all, and enjoyed the joke as much as he did the buns. Everybody laughed, and Jumbo's eyes twinkled with joy.—Congregationalist.

Read the "Wants." Many of them are as interesting as news items. See if it is not so.